



Police Department

Nannette H. Hegerty  
Chief of Police

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NEWS RELEASE #

CONTACT: ANNE E. SCHWARTZ  
PUBLIC RELATIONS MANAGER  
414-935-7209

## LATEST NEWS RELEASE ON FALK EXPLOSION

Contacts: Anne Schwartz, Milwaukee Police Department 559-3262 (cell)  
Eileen Force, City of Milwaukee Office of the Mayor 708-7963 (cell)

At 8:07 this morning a.m., December 6, 2006 a large explosion occurred at Falk Corporation in the Menomonee Valley in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Current information on victims:

- There are three confirmed fatalities
- 46 people have been transported for medical services
- All Falk employees have now been accounted for.

As of 5 p.m. Wednesday, the Falk Corporation set up a telephone number that employees and their families may call for information. That number is 414-643-2420. It will be staffed from 5 p.m. until midnight Wednesday and again starting at 8 a.m. Thursday morning. The City number of 414-286-3616 will remain in operation until 7 p.m. until the transition is completed.

The Health Department facilitated the delivery of two air samples from the incident site to the State of Wisconsin Laboratory of Hygiene for analysis. These results will be available by Friday. At this time, there is no evidence that hazardous materials were involved in the fire or that the public was exposed to airborne toxic chemicals as a result of the explosion.

### Structural issues:

The City of Milwaukee Department of Public Works has completed inspection of the viaducts on Canal Street and all are structurally sound.

City of Milwaukee Department of Neighborhood Services (DNS) inspectors will enter the Falk site as soon as practical. Structural integrity and safety is a priority.

DNS also will continue external inspections of businesses and residences in the immediate perimeter of the incident site. Internal inspections will begin later this week.

### Financial assistance:

Mayor Tom Barrett has dispatched the Neighborhood Business Development Team to canvass local businesses that may have been adversely affected by the explosion. The team is assessing the impact on small business owners and is sharing information about resources that will be made available to assist in recovery. A team will also visit Menomonee Valley businesses as soon as we can get to them.

Deceased in the fire are: Curtis J. Lane, 38, of Oconomowoc; Thomas M. Letendre, 49, of Milwaukee and Daniel T. Kuster, 35, of Mayville.

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